1.0 AMENDMENT

1.1 IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2 and 14 without prejudice and without disclaimer.
Please amend claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 11, and 12 as shown below:
Please add claims 24-28 as shown below:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of general formula I, which is an ionic complex:

$$r\,[D^{(nz)}]\;\; p\,[(W_q\text{-}S\text{-}X\text{-}L)^{(my)}]$$

formula I

in which D is a therapeutically useful molecule selected from the group consisting of a drug, peptide, protein, nucleic acid, mono- or oligosaccharide, and sugar-peptide conjugate;

r is an integer greater than or equal to 1;

p, n and m may be the same or different, and are independently integers greater than or equal to 1;

n and m represent the overall magnitude of the charge on the molecules; and

z and y are charges, either positive (+) or negative (-), such that when z is positive, y is negative and *vice versa*;

and $[(W_q\text{-}S\text{-}X\text{-}L)^{(my)}]$ is a carrier compound, in which

X is a covalent bond, or is a linker group, selected from 2 to 14 atom spacers, which may be optionally substituted ~~or unsubstituted~~, branched or linear;

S is a mono- or oligosaccharide;

L is a lipidic moiety;

W may be absent, or is a 3 to 10 atom alkyl or heteroalkyl spacer, which may be branched or linear, and is substituted with one or more functional groups, each of which is charged or is capable of carrying a charge under physiological conditions; and

q is 0 when W is absent, or is an integer, which ranges from 3 to the number of hydroxyls available for substitution on the mono- or oligosaccharide.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, in which D is a biological molecule.

4. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1, in which the linker X is attached to the mono- or oligosaccharide S through the ~~glycosidic~~anomeric position.

5. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, in which the linker X is attached to the mono- or oligosaccharide S via an O-glycoside, C-glycoside , N-glycoside, S-glycoside, amide, urea, thiourea, carbamate, thiocarbamate, carbonate, ether or ester bond.

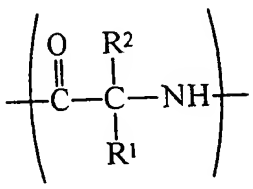
6. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1, in which the linker X is attached to the mono- or oligosaccharide S through a position other than the ~~glycosidic~~anomeric position via an amide, urea, thiourea, carbamate, thiocarbamate, carbonate, ether or ester bond.

7. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, in which the linker X is attached to the lipidic moiety L via an amide, ester, ether, imine, carbamate, urea, thiourea, or carbonate linkage.

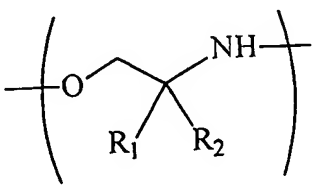
8. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1, in which W is substituted with one or more functional groups selected from the group consisting of an amidine, guanidinium, carboxylate, tetrazole, hydroxamic acid, hydrazide, amine, sulfate, phosphonate, phosphate and a sulfonate group.

9. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, in which the lipidic moiety L is composed of:

(a) any combination of 1 to 4 lipoamino acids and.or lipoamino alcohols, of general formula IIa of IIb



IIa



IIb

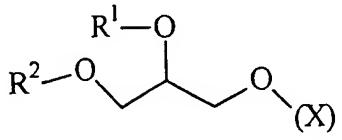
in which each of R^1 and R^2 may independently be:

(i) hydrogen, or

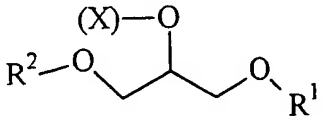
(ii) a linear or branched chain alkyl or alkenyl group having 4 to 24 carbon atoms, which may optionally be substituted, provided that the substituents do not significantly adversely affect the lipophilic nature of the group,

with the proviso that both R^1 and R^2 cannot be hydrogen be hydrogen at the same time;

(b) a glycerol-based lipid of general formula IIIa or IIIb



IIIa

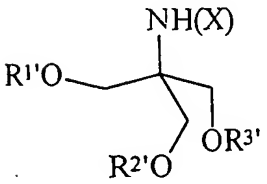


IIIb

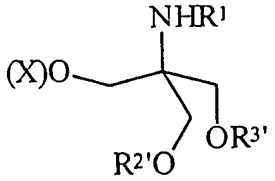
in which R^1 and R^2 are as defined in general formula IIa, and

X is a linker group as defined in general formula I; or

(c) a trishydroxymethylmethylamine-based lipid of general formula Iva or Ivb



IVa



IVb

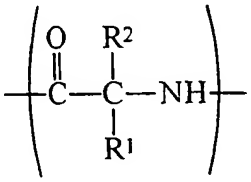
in which R^1, R^2, and R^3 are independently hydrogen or a linear or branched chain alkyl or alkenyl group having 4 to 24 carbon atoms, or an arly or arylalkyl group having 6 to 24 carbon atoms, said alkyl, alkenyl, aryl or arylalkyl groups may be optionally be substituted, provided that the substitutions do not significantly adversely affect the lipophilic nature of the group, and X is as defined in general formula I;

with the proviso that at least one of R^1, R^2, and R^3 must not be hydrogen.

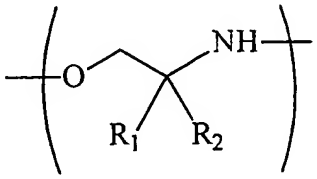
10. (Original) A compound according to claim 8, in which the lipidic moiety L contains one or more charged functional groups.

11. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 10, in which the one or more charged functional groups are selected from the group consisting of ~~amidine~~amidinium, guanidinium, carboxylate, ~~tetrazole~~tetrazoline, ~~hydroxamic acid, hydrazide, amine,~~ hydroxamate, hydrazido, ammonium, sulfate, phosphonate, phosphate, and sulfonate.

12. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1, in which ~~the mono- or oligosaccharide~~ S is selected from the group consisting of a mono-, di- or tri-saccharide, and the lipidic moiety is one to three lipoaminoacids of general formula IIa or IIb:



IIa



IIb

in which each of R^1 and R^2 may independently be:

(i) hydrogen, or

(ii) a linear or branched chain alkyl or alkenyl group having 4 to 24 carbon atoms, which may optionally be substituted, provided that the substituents do not significantly adversely affect the lipophilic nature of the group,

with the proviso that both R^1 and R^2 cannot be hydrogen be hydrogen at the same time.

13. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, in which r is greater than p.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) A compound according to claim 13, in which D is a biological molecule.

16. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, in which D is a sulfated oligosaccharide, charged oligosaccharide, sulfated antithrombotic or an aminoglycoside.

17. (Original) A compound according to claim 13, in which D is a sulfated oligosaccharide, charged oligosaccharide, sulfated antithrombotic or an aminoglycoside.

18. (Withdrawn) A method of preparing a compound according to claim 1, comprising the step of forming a covalent bond between the mono- or oligosaccharide S and the linker X or the lipid L, in which the bond between S and X is an O-glycoside, C-glycoside , N-glycoside, S-glycoside, amide, urea, thiourea, carbamate, thiocarbamate, carbonate, ether or ester bond, and the bond between X and L is an amide, ester, ether, imine, carbamate, urea, thiourea, or carbonate bond.

19. (Original) A composition comprising a compound according to claim 1, together with a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.

20. (Withdrawn) A method of preparation of a compound according to claim 1, comprising the step of mixing a drug molecule D with $[(W_q\text{-}S\text{-}X\text{-}L)^{(my)}]$ in which W, q, S, X, L, m and y are as defined in claim 1 in solution, followed by removal of the solvent(s) to provide a homogenous mixed salt.

21. (Withdrawn) A method of delivery of a therapeutically useful molecule, comprising the step of administering the molecule to a subject in need of such treatment in the form of a compound according to claim 1.

22. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21, in which the administration is by the oral route.

23. (Withdrawn) A method of treating or preventing a pathological condition, comprising the step of administering a suitable compound according to claim 1 to a subject in need of such treatment.

24. (New) A compound according to claim 1, in which the compound is piperacillin/2-acetamido-2-deoxy-N-(1-amino-(R/S) –dodecoyl) -β -D-glucopyranosylamine ionic complex.

25. (New) A compound according to claim 1, in which S is a low molecular weight heparin.

26. (New) A compound according to claim 25, in which the low molecular weight heparin is selected from the group consisting of fondaparinux, enoxaparin, delteparin, nadroparin and danaparoid.

27. (New) A compound according to claim 26, in which the low molecular weight heparin is fondaparinux.

28. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 27 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.